CLAIMS

1. A pocket suitable for incorporating in a garment, luggage item, personal accessory, or the like, said pocket including restriction means to restrict the insertion of objects into, or removal of objects from the pocket, the restriction means being controllable to cause the said means to restrict to apply a restricting action on the occurrence of an enabling signal.

2. The pocket of claim 1 wherein the enabling signal is generated at the command of a user.

3. The pocket of claim 1 wherein the enabling signal is generated in response to output signal status of at least one sensor.

4. The pocket of claim 3 wherein the sensor is an orientation sensor arranged to produce an output signal dependent on the orientation of the pocket, the output signal initiating generation of the enabling signal when the pocket adopts an orientation in which it is possible that objects placed in the pocket will fall out.

5. The pocket of claim 3 wherein the sensor is an accelerometer arranged to produce an output signal dependent on acceleration experienced by the pocket, the output signal initiating generation of the enabling signal when the sensor output signal indicates that the pocket is undergoing jolting movement.

6. The pocket of claim 1 wherein the pocket is provided with a closable access opening communicating with interior pocket space and said restriction means serves to urge closed said access opening on the occurrence of the enabling signal.

7. The pocket of claim 1 wherein the pocket includes at least one interior wall portion which delimits interior pocket space and said restriction means serves to urge the at least one interior wall portion on occurrence of the enabling signal so as to reduce interior pocket space volume and to clasp any objects occupying the interior pocket space.

8. The pocket of claim 1 wherein the pocket includes at least two adjacent facing panels each delimiting interior pocket space and the restriction means serves to urge at least one of the panels towards the other one of the panels on occurrence of the enabling signal to clasp any objects occupying the interior pocket space.

9. The pocket of claim 6, wherein the restriction means includes an actuator component disposed in edge portions of the closable access opening, said actuator component undergoing a change in shape on occurrence of the enabling signal.

10. The pocket of claim 7 wherein the restriction means includes an actuator component disposed in the at least one interior wall portion, said actuator component undergoing a change in shape on occurrence of the enabling signal.

11. The pocket of claim 8 wherein the restriction means includes an actuator component disposed in at least one of the panels, said actuator component undergoing a change in shape on occurrence of the enabling signal.

12. The pocket of claim 9 wherein the actuator component is comprised of a portion of nickel-titanium alloy which reverts to a pre-determined dimension on being subject to an increase in temperature from a first temperature lower than a transitional temperature to a second temperature higher than a transitional temperature.

13. The pocket of claim 10 wherein the actuator component is comprised of a portion of nickel-titanium alloy which reverts to a pre-determined dimension on being subject to an increase in temperature from a first temperature lower than a transitional temperature to a second temperature higher than a transitional temperature.

14. The pocket of claim 11 wherein the actuator component is comprised of a portion of nickel-titanium alloy which reverts to a pre-determined dimension on being subject to an increase in temperature from a first temperature lower than a transitional temperature to a second temperature higher than a transitional temperature.

15. The pocket of claim 12 wherein said increase in temperature is obtained through the mechanism of Joule heating by passing an electrical current through the nickel-titanium alloy.

16. The pocket of claim 9 wherein the actuator component includes a bimetallic strip.

17. The pocket of claim 10 wherein the actuator component includes a bimetallic strip.

18. The pocket of claim 11 wherein the actuator component includes a bimetallic strip.

19. The pocket of claim 1 wherein said restricting action terminates on cessation of the enabling signal.

20. The restriction means of claim 1.

21. A garment, luggage item, personal accessory or furnishing having the pocket of claim 1.